

Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Project Profile SOUTH CAROLINA

Updated: March 20, 2001

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program

Focus Areas Funded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveillance and Epidemiology – Core Activities • Laboratory Capacity - Biological Agents • Health Alert Network (Funded Year 2)
South Carolina has strengthened its capacity to respond to threats of bioterrorism by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installing a statewide broadcast fax system; • Installing a video-conference network linking five distant local health districts and central office; • Installing new high-speed, internet-capable surveillance and response computers in each health district to be used for outbreak investigations, local data analysis of reported conditions, and distance-learning initiatives. • Partnering and sharing data with the State poison control center; • Collaborating with the State Emergency Preparedness Agency to develop a state planning template for Weapons of Mass Destruction response based on the Department of Justice assessment data; • Participating on the FBI-Lead Southeast Regional Terrorism Task Force linking state and federal law enforcement agencies with public health and healthcare facility representatives; • Education of local public health and hospital staff regarding the basics of public health preparedness for bioterrorism through “Epi-Tours” to each health district in the state; • Developing a “Response for a Biologic or Chemical Terrorist Threat” protocol in collaboration with the Emergency Response Advisory Committee; • Creating a “BT 101” course for clinicians, laboratorians, health department staff, and other external partners; and, • Initiation of collaborations with Healthcare facilities in creating a facility-specific Bioterrorism Response Plan utilizing the Associations of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) Bioterrorism Plan Template.
Project Year 2 Plans (August 31, 2000-August 30, 2001) include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a state plan for public health surveillance and response for bioterrorism; • Developing standardized laboratory testing procedure; • Improving communications among public health and clinical laboratories throughout the state, to include continued use of APIC, BT Template planning process; • Participation in the Department of Defense, Domestic Preparedness Federal, State, and Local Exercise Program 2001;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing installation of surveillance and response computers at the health district level; and, Enhancing distance-learning capability through use of installed video conferencing equipment for training in bioterrorism response, surveillance, and outbreak investigation. 								
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Key Emergency Contacts	<table> <tr> <td>Federal Emergency Management Agency:</td><td>(770) 220-5200</td></tr> <tr> <td>State Emergency Management Agency:</td><td>(803) 734-8020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Federal Bureau of Investigation:</td><td>(803) 551-4200</td></tr> <tr> <td>State Public Health Agency:</td><td>(803) 734-4880</td></tr> </table>	Federal Emergency Management Agency:	(770) 220-5200	State Emergency Management Agency:	(803) 734-8020	Federal Bureau of Investigation:	(803) 551-4200	State Public Health Agency:	(803) 734-4880
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